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Title: Need to provide central assistance for Metro Rail Project between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (AHMEDABAD EAST): Government of Gujarat has planned to strengthen urban transportation in and around the Mega City of Ahmedabad. A project has been conceived to link Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad through Metro Rail. This would be implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle, a wholly State-owned MEGA Co. Ltd incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 which is fully functional. The State Government is committed to the Project and has engaged Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) as Technical Consultants. Metro Rail is likely to cover about 76 kms and in the initial phase the estimated cost is about Rs.15000 crores at current market price. Substantial amount of money has already been spent on the project development and further financial assistance would be provided through state budgetary provision. However viability of the project depends on substantial financial support to the project in the form of Central Assistance which is at least to the tune of 25% of the Project Cost. The State Government also envisages providing Metro Rail link to other cities also in the upcoming years. I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of Urban Development to earmark and release the substantial central assistance for this mega Metro Rail Project between Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar.